

SUPPORT S.B. No. 184 & H.B.No. 5262
Hearing: Friday, March 4, 2022, at 10am

My name is Madeline A. Shepherd, and I reside in Stamford, CT. It is extremely important to me that we continue being able to vote by Absentee Ballot. I SUPPORT and urge you to PASS both S.B. No. 184 and H.B. No. 5262. My husband and I are in our 70's, and we are in the high-risk group for contracting severe COVID-19. This pandemic is not over, and new variants will emerge. Far too many severe cases of this virus have impacted our communities (even in CT, a state with high vaccination rates). As a result, hospitalization rates have been alarmingly high, at times, putting an enormous strain on our health care workers. NO voter should have to risk his/her life by the requirement to cast a vote in person, and NO poll worker should have to jeopardize his/her life due to our state's extremely regressive voting laws. For the sake of saving our fragile democracy, as well as our health and well-being, voting must be made easier and more accessible. I strongly support Early Voting and No Excuse Absentee Voting. (At the very least, we need to enable voters to cite "COVID-19" as a valid reason for voting by Absentee Ballot).

Please PASS S.B. No. 184 and H.B. No. 5262. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeline A. Shepherd
Stamford, CT